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PATENT

Docket No. 55943 USA 1A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):) Group Art Unit: 3652
Serial No.: 09/677,805) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: 2 October 2000)
For: SAMPLE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHODS AND SYSTEMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments to the specification:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 6, line 8, please delete " _____ " and insert -- 60/237,151 -- therefore.

At page 6, line 25, please delete "6,063,589 (Kellogg et al.)" and insert -- 6,063,589 (Kellogg et al.) -- therefore.

At page 11, line 9, please delete " _____ " and insert -- 60/237,151 -- therefore.